

HEARING SCREENING (SCHOOLS) RULEMAKING

September 9, 2008 Update

The current rules implementing A.R.S. §§ 36-899.01 and 36-899.02 for the hearing screening of students are located in Title 9, Chapter 13, Article 1 of the Arizona Administrative Code.

The Department is revising these rules to more clearly specify:

- The students who:
 - Are required to receive a hearing screening,
 - May not receive a hearing screening, and
 - May be screened at the discretion of the school's hearing screening administrator;
- When a hearing screening may not be performed for a student;
- How a hearing screening is to be conducted;
- The criteria for passing a hearing screening;
- What a school administrator is required to do if a student does not pass an initial hearing screening;
- When a school administrator is required to notify the parents or guardians of students, and what actions the school administrator is to recommend the parents or guardians take;
- The qualifications of screeners who perform hearing screening for students;
- The standards for equipment used for hearing screening;
- The documents a school administrator is required to retain regarding hearing screening provided for a student; and
- What information a school administrator is required to submit to the Department when reporting hearing screening results, when the information is due, and how it is to be submitted.

The Department has completed a draft of the revised rules and has consulted with individuals in the Arizona Department of Education, the Arizona Department of Economic Security, and First Things First to determine the impact of the planned changes in the rules on these other State agencies. The Department has also posted the draft hearing screening rules on the Department's web page for informal public comment. Interested persons will have an opportunity to review the draft on the web page and to contact the Department with any comments or questions regarding the draft.

Stakeholders can communicate their issues, comments, or concerns to Ruthann Smejkal, Rules Analyst for the Department, by e-mail at smejkar@azdhs.gov, by phone at 602-364-1230, or by fax at 602-364-1150.